

at present lovely. I
suppose that, about this
time you will be going
to Switzerland - Mr. England
must still tempt you
very much. We hear
from none of our neighbors
& friends over there with
you, except the Pickering's.
Mrs. Pickering wrote from
Cambridge, England - very
happy, apparently in her
first visit to England.

We are here as busy -
and about as well - as
ever. - And I remain
Very sincerely Yours

Asa Gray

Cambridge. July 19. 1883

My dear Mrs. James

It is high time that
I reported to you. Mrs. Gray
was going to answer your
interesting letter off hand, -
but she has been full of
company, and of a sort to tax
her strength, and of late
has had to take care of
me, who have been kept
up stairs and on my back
with a little illness. Only
this evening do I begin to
feel that I have any of
the old vigor left.

From your own letter, &
from what Sir Joseph
writes, we conclude that you
and your daughters are having
an enjoyable time

You will want to know
about the Moss-book.

Well, first the delay was
with Lesqueneul, - or rather
with me, who, finding too
much I could not under-
stand, or put straight
myself - after enlightening
him all I could, & writing
over some for pattern -
sent his MS back to
him. He is as patient as
a saint, and sets manfully
at work at revision.

Then came the initial
part of copy, - in terms of
him with Cassin, and
then a long delay on
Cassin's part - who found
some difficulty, he says,
in getting a good compositor.
At length some first
proof - then its revision
by Mr. Watson; and
now it has gone to Lesqueneul,

and now I hope we shall
move. I have made
such a personal appeal
to Mr. Watson (who had felt
that he could not touch it),
and have moreover arranged
to recompense him, in
some sort, for his labor,
that he will now read
the proofs, & guide & help
good Mr. Lesqueneul, -
and so, let us hope to
get on. I think that
you may feel comfort-
able about it, and I
am much more so than
I was. News of Cambridge
I think you will get better
from other correspondents. I
do not go out much - see
few Cambridge people at
this season - in fact most
are off, and we are in
deep vacation. - The
weather has been warm, is